

OUR WELCOME TO DEWEY

How the Nation Will Receive the Home Coming Hero of Manila Bay.

BY SEWELL FORD.

The reception which awaits Admiral Dewey when he comes sailing up to the great eastern gateway of the nation is the biggest thing of the kind ever planned. New Yorkers are going to give him the best welcome they know how to extend, and every American citizen who can get there will be on hand to see and shout his approval. You will find the details of the affair below.

For nearly 18 months the people of this nation have been bottling up the enthusiasm distilled by their unbounded admiration for the man who smashed things so heroically on that memorable May morning in Manila bay. Now that man is coming home, and we have arranged to unloose said enthusiasm. We are going to do it in our own peculiar way.

By right of geographical situation and precedence due to size the details of the nation's first greeting to Admiral Dewey on his home coming have been left to 1,500 representative citizens of our big city. These New Yorkers know—at least they thought—that each individual American would like to take an active and personal part in extending this welcome. But it is a practical impossibility for 70,000,000 people to stand at any one spot on the Atlantic seaboard even on such an occasion as this. So a favored few, comparatively speaking, will be there to express what the rest of us feel.

This expression of admiration, regard and esteem will be made in the good old American way. There will be parades on land and sea. There will be fireworks and the thunder of big guns. There will be decorations and illuminations.

As this is an unusual occasion—in fact, the most unusual occasion of the kind which has ever confronted us—everything will be on an unusual scale. The parades will be unusually big and magnificent, the fireworks will be unusually loud and long, the decorations will be unusually elaborate and the illuminations unusually extensive and brilliant.

THE RECEPTION PROGRAMME.

The programme for the reception of our home coming admiral contemplates two days and three nights of festival.

The fun will begin on the evening of Thursday, Sept. 28. Just before sundown of that day it is expected that the white nose of the Olympia will be seen plowing through the waves off Sandy Hook. The flagship will anchor off the Hook and wait for morning, accompanied by a fleet of excursion steamers and tugs.

Before Admiral Dewey left the Mediterranean he found out just exactly

wide lines, will await her. You may imagine the cheers of the jacksies as they man the sides and watch the flagship steam between the big battleships and cruisers.

When the head of the line is reached, the Olympia will anchor again. Then Rear Admiral Sampson will go on board and extend the official welcome of the navy and the government. There will be little time for chatting between the two officers, for at an early hour the fleet will get under way for the naval parade.

In this the Olympia will have as an escort the whole north Atlantic squadron. The course will be up the Hudson to Grant's tomb. The Olympia will fire the prescribed salute and anchor a short distance below the great white marble mausoleum. The turning of all these big warships in the narrow river, led by the gallant Olympia, will be a very pretty naval evolution.

In the evening the fleet will be illuminated, strings of colored electric lights being hung all about the grim warships.

The next morning, Saturday, Sept. 30, Admiral Dewey and his officers, with officers from the other ships, will land and go to the Hotel Claremont, at the head of Riverside drive, where an elaborate breakfast will be served, the mayor of New York and his official satellites acting as hosts.

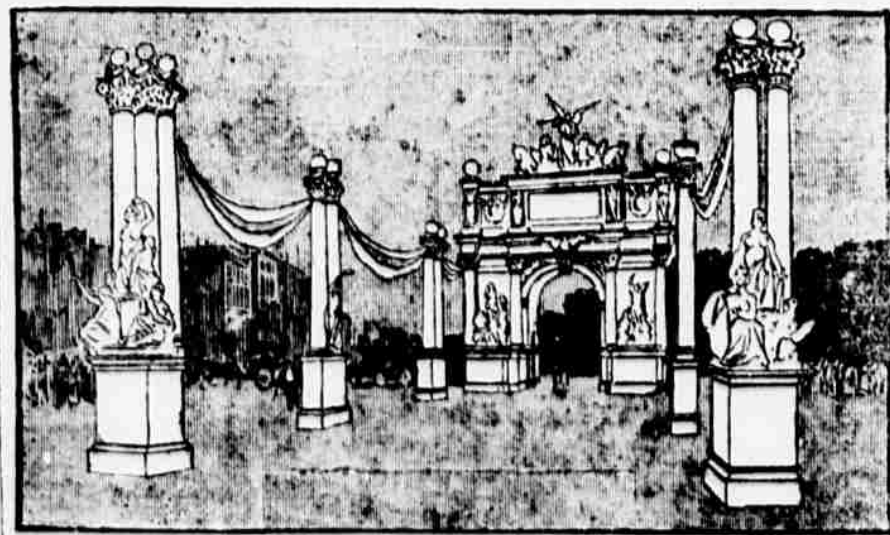
Then will come the big land parade. Then Admiral Dewey will have a chance to see close at hand some of the millions of good Americans whom he will have observed the day before merely as black masses of bodies fringing the wharfs and buildings of the river front.

Escorted by something like 30,000 soldiers and a great naval brigade from the squadron, the admiral will drive for miles through solid masses of cheering, handkerchief waving, hand clapping humanity. Above him and on all sides he will see a mass of waving flags.

Then he will go through the great arches which have been erected in his honor.

Of course there will be a banquet to wind things up, with an entertainment for "the men behind the guns."

In honor of the home coming of the hero of Manila the city of New York is



NEW YORK'S TRIUMPHAL ARCH.

when he was wanted to appear, and then he instructed his navigating officer accordingly. It is possible that the Olympia may be obliged to cruise back and forth out there in the ocean for several days in order not to appear before the scheduled date. It all depends on the weather, but there is little chance that she will be behind hand.

When the Olympia drops her anchor in lower New York bay, the admiral will get his first surprise. It is extremely unlikely that the modest sea fighter has any idea of the extent of the demonstration which is to be made in his honor. But when he sees acres of water craft blazing with electric lights, miles of shore line bathed in red fire, is almost deafened by the shrieks of whistles and sees the very sky itself turned into a playground for thousands of hissing, bursting rockets he will begin to realize that a whole lot of enthusiastic Americans are glad to see him back.

Early Friday morning the Olympia will get up her anchor and steam in through the Narrows under the welcome bellowing guns of Forts Wadsworth and Hamilton up to a point off Tompkinsville, where the ships of the north Atlantic squadron, ranged in two

putting on such a gala dress as it has never worn before. The municipal government has appropriated \$150,000 to meet the expenses of the reception, and this is being spent with a more or less judicious hand.

NEW YORK'S GALA DRESS.

One of the principal features of the welcome will be the triumphal arch which is being built on Madison square at the intersection of Fifth avenue and Twenty-fourth street. This spot is in the very heart of the metropolis. The situation of the arch will be such that it can be seen for long distances from almost every direction.

A very fine arch it is to be too. The actual cost will be but \$26,500, but it must be remembered that 27 of the best sculptors in the country are giving their services and are working like beavers at its construction. If Gotham had to pay these patriotic artists of the mallet and chisel, the bill would foot up something like \$200,000, for each sculptor has a national reputation.

The arch will resemble the arch of Titus in Rome, but it will be bigger and finer to look at than that historic

UNCLE SAM'S WELCOME.

BY JOE LINCOLN.

What? here at last! Come in, come in.
Well, Admiral, how be yer?
Yer're welcome home from 'cross the foam,
We're mighty glad ter see yer.
It does seem good ter have yer back
With us, yer blood relations,
Yer've been away so long, ter stay
Amongst them furren nations.

We've heard from yer quite frequent since
Yer took our Eastern tiller;
We read it yit, that note yer writ
So plain upon Manila.
We liked that message that yer sent
Them folks who riz yer dander,
It showed direct, we'd git respect
Where you was our commander.

We sent yer off, a commodore,
Few knowed or cared about it;
But now yer name is bright with fame
And all the world can shout it.
Yer went away an unknown man,
Yer public praise was zero;
But now it's flung from every tongue,
You're back agin, a hero.

Yer actions show us what yer be—
A plain man, though a bold one;
They show us that yer wear a hat
No bigger than yer old one.
We love yer, not alone because
Yer fought a fight and won it;
It seems ter me lots more ter be
The manly way yer done it.

No use, we Yankees like a man
Who's there all kinds er weathers—
Who doesn't shirk, but does his work
Without the fuss and feathers.
That's why, George Dewey, we're here terday,
Ter clasp yer hand and shake it,
With this address, "The hull U. S.
Is yours; step in and take it."

affair, although not of such lasting material. Staff, which glistens whiter than any marble and looks just as substantial as granite, will be used.

A double line of ornate columns extending on either side of the arch will make a magnificent and imposing approach to the stately pile.

The arch is to be adorned with sculpture symbolizing the power of the United States as a maritime nation. The main idea of the sculptural adornment will be to have the four great piers one continuous series, personifying the four subjects of:

Patriotism (or the call to arms), war (the fight), the return the victors returning to their native land), peace (the volunteers again taking up their peaceful occupations).

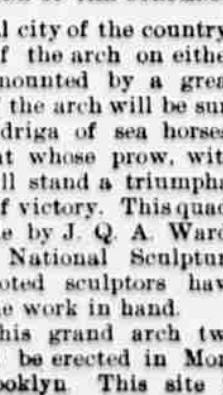
These subjects are being treated in an allegorical way, with realistic groups in the immediate foreground. Above these, acting as finials to the four columns, on each side of the great group, will be portrait figures of admirals and representatives of the navy, such as Paul Jones, Decatur, Perry, Farragut, Foote, Hull, McDonough, Cushing and Porter. Each of these pieces will be 12 feet high. There will be medallions of other naval heroes.

The four spandrels over the main entrance will be filled with figures symbolizing the Atlantic ocean and Pacific ocean on one side and the North river and East river on the other, thus emphasizing New York's position as the most important commercial city of the country.

The keystone of the arch on either side will be surmounted by a great eagle. The apex of the arch will be surmounted by a quadriga of sea horses, drawing a ship at whose prow, with uplifted wings, will stand a triumphal figure suggestive of victory. This quadriga is being made by J. Q. A. Ward, president of the National Sculpture society. Other noted sculptors have various parts of the work in hand.

In addition to this grand arch two large columns will be erected in Montague terrace, Brooklyn. This site is

ONE OF THE COLUMNS.



night to catch the first glimpse of the admiral's flagship and to carry their message of "welcome to port" to the returning sea fighter who has made glorious his country and his country's flag on the other side of the world.

Every one of the excursion craft, every private yacht, every tug and lighter will make its showing, more or less brilliant in the white lights of the electric lamp. And on the private yachts especially the illumination will be decorative, with flag designs in red, white and blue lamps, and messages of welcome in large letters strung between the masts.

The ferry companies' slips and the steamship and railroad piers along the East river will be lighted, and their electric designs will be varied, according to the taste of their designers and the plans of the chief engineers. On the North river, where the larger railroad and steamship lines have their terminals, the display will be even more brilliant. The Pennsylvania railroad was the first to submit a plan of its illumination of the Jersey City terminal to the committee. On the great train sheds facing the water will be the words "Welcome, Dewey," in enormous letters of electric lamps, with the facade of the station picked out in electricity.

The Delaware, Lackawanna and Western railroad also has reported its plans to the committee. They were designed by Paul H. Brangs, the company's chief electrician, and they show an elaborate display.

All the other railroad companies have made plans as elaborate and complete as these two. Private and corporate owners of piers on both rivers have been seen individually and have given their plans confidentially to General Howard Carroll, who is chairman of a subcommittee on river and harbor decorations, and the promise of a continuous blaze of electric light for miles along each bank of the two rivers may be expected confidently to be fulfilled.

FESTOONS OF LIGHT.

The New York City Hall park and the hall itself, as well as the borough hall in Brooklyn, will be illuminated under the direction of the subcommittee of which Lewis Nixon is chairman. Mr. Nixon has received a design from the Edison Electric company calling for the greatest illumination that old City Hall park ever has seen. Strings of electric



THE ADMIRAL'S LAUNCH.

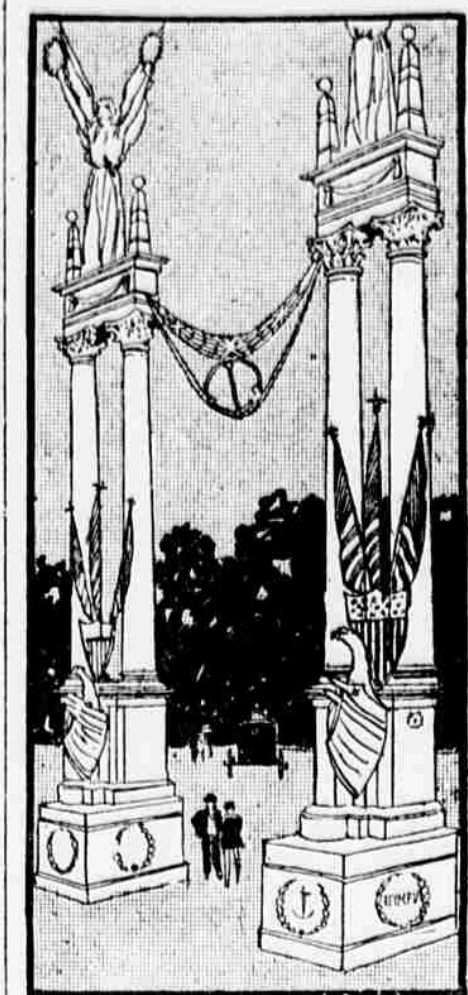
lamps are to be festooned among the trees, across the walks, around the fountain and everywhere that there is a peg or a branch to hang a lamp upon.

These lights will be colored as well as white, and the big are lights which will be hung in arches at a greater height also will show a variety of colors. The park will look like the scene of a

be in New York to welcome the admiral. It is estimated that no less than 8,000,000 visitors will swoop down on New York during the two Dewey days. This will be an unprecedented incursion, even for the metropolis.

AN IMMENSE CROWD.

The cities and towns within 100 miles of Gotham will empty a large portion of their people into the metropolis by day excursions, while from



BROOKLYN'S TRIUMPHAL COLUMNS.

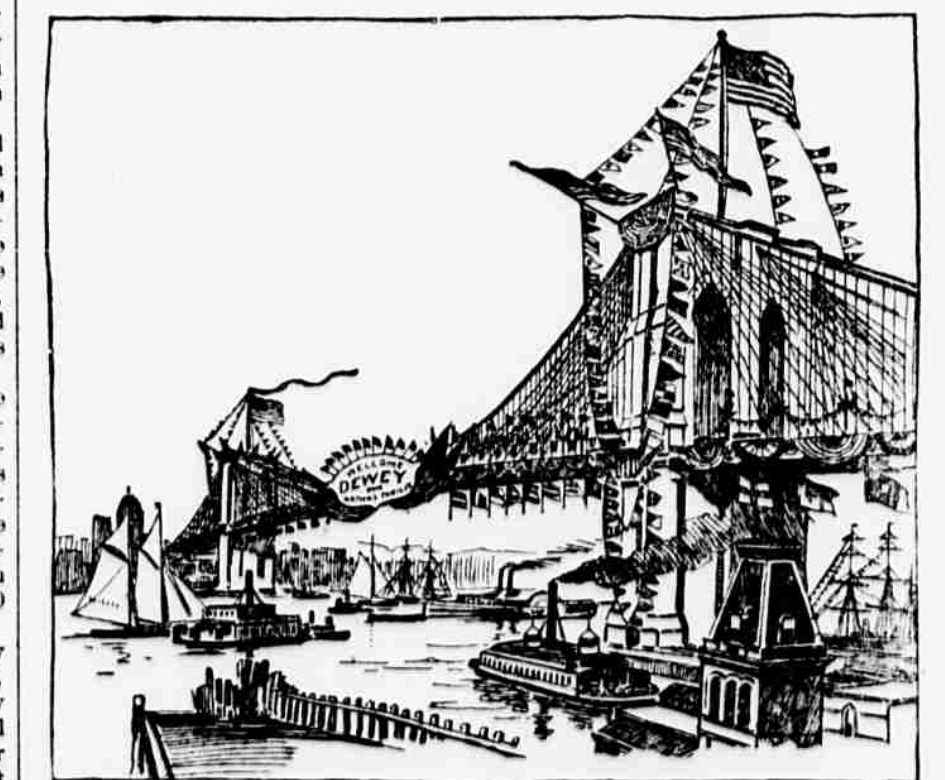
greater distances will come thousands of others. Even in the far west Dewey clubs are being formed. These clubs are made up of people who are bona fide to be in New York when Dewey gets there. Agents are sent ahead to arrange for accommodations, and special trains are to be chartered.

The New Yorkers think the big crowd can be accommodated somehow or other. During the Columbian celebration of several years ago New York took care of at least 1,000,000 visitors, and since then her facilities have been greatly increased.

During the Columbian celebration the New York hotel men worked together and handled the emergency without difficulty. Weeks before the event they had, through advertisements, compiled a list of householders in the vicinity close to the various hotels who wished to rent rooms without board, and they communicated with these householders.

Then, to save hotel clerks the bother of looking after outside details, they opened a central bureau in Union square, where persons crowded out of the hotels were sent and quarters selected for them according to their ideas of economy and convenience.

The same plan is to be carried out at the Dewey celebration. It is the opinion of James H. Breslin that if 1,000,000 persons have to remain in New York overnight during the Dewey festivities New York can take care of them. There would necessarily be a good deal of "doubling up," but Mr.



PLAN FOR DECORATING BROOKLYN BRIDGE.

garden party or a lawn festival on an immense scale. The hall itself will be ablaze with lights, which will show its decorations of flags and bunting by night as well as by day. Similar illuminations are projected for the borough hall in Brooklyn.

It is impossible to tell all the wonders that will be accomplished in the way of electrical illumination by private individuals. Every electrician in the city is working on plans for one or more buildings, and all the electrical shops are crowded with orders, which must be turned out before Dewey day.

On land there will be a daylight display which has never been equalled in New York or any other city. The great metropolis will be fairly swathed in red, white and blue bunting. From every point where a staff can be stuck out a flag will be flung to the breeze. Each of the big mercantile houses is planning its own scheme of decoration, and the smaller ones as well. People who visited New York soon after the battle of Santiago were astonished at the lavish display of bunting, but this display is to be eclipsed when Dewey comes home.

A word as to the crowds which will

Breslin thinks the city hotels, reinforced by apartment houses and boarding houses that would be temporarily pressed into service under hotel generalship, could handle such a multitude.

It must be remembered that every day in the year 100,000 people arrive in and leave New York without creating a ruffle on the surface of things.

But the visitor to Gotham must expect to be somewhat crowded on the Dewey days. He must not look for elbow room on the streets and must be prepared to hang on to cable cars by his eyelids. He will see sights worth looking at, however, and when he finds himself in the center of acres of densely packed humanity two blocks from the line of parade he may console himself by the reflection that he is doing his part toward making Dewey's welcome home the most impressive spectacle with which the nation has ever honored one of its citizens.

